

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /060 W

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P 261020Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4704

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 3361

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR CRAWFORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: TEMPEST IN DIPLOMATIC CORPS TEAPOT OVER TURKISH
AMBASSADOR

REF: NICOSIA 3355 (DTG 231147Z OCT 76)

1. AS REPORTED REFTEL, LEBANESE DEAN OF DIPLOMATIC CORPS
INVITED HEADS OF MISSIONS TO TEA ON OCTOBER 25 "TO DISCUSS"
PROBLEM OF TURKISH NATIONAL DAY PARTY. HE REITERATED THAT HE
HAD BEEN REQUESTED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY TO INFORM CORPS THAT GOC
"IS OPPOSED" TO DIPLOMATS ATTENDING. DEAN ASKED FOR COMMENTS
AND ADVICE. "DISCUSSION" WAS DESULTORY WITH NO POSITIONS STATED
AND NO MEANINGFUL COMMENT.

2. WE HAVE NOT POLLED ARABS OR EAST EUROPEANS ON ATTENDANCE.
WE ARE INFORMED THAT UK, FRG, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, DENMARK
AND AUSTRALIA WILL ATTEND. FRENCH WILL NOT. MOST OF CORPS
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ARE MIFFED AT TURKS FOR PLACING DIPLOMATS IN AN AWKWARD

SITUATION WHICH CLEARLY VIOLATES PROTOCOL. FRG CHARGE IS RECOMMENDING HIS EMBASSY IN ANKARA BE INSTRUCTED TO COMPLAIN ABOUT LACK OF SOME SORT OF WRITTEN NOTIFICATION, AT LEAST TO COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN CYPRUS, OF ONHON'S APPOINTMENT.

3. COMMENT: THE TURKS SEEM TO HAVE WON THIS SKIRMISH ON POINTS -- MOST IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WILL ATTEND TURKISH NATIONAL DAY. THERE HAS BEEN A SMALL COST TO TURKS, HOWEVER, WITH EVEN SOME OF MORE SYMPATHETIC MISSIONS RESENTFUL OF WAY ANKARA AND THE EMBASSY HERE HANDLED THE WHOLE ONHON-NATIONAL DAY MATTER. DIPLOMATS ALSO ARE NOT TOO HAPPY WITH GOC FOREIGN MINISTRY'S VEILED THREATS OF RETALIATION. WE VIEW WHOLE MATTER AS PART OF THE NORMAL GAME OF MICRODIPLOMACY PLAYED SO OFTEN IN CYPRUS.
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